# The Daily Eurofurence

Ringberg Hotel Suhl. Saturday, 29th August 2009, #4

## Uncle Kage vs. 2: Das Ist Not Perfect?

"I fly all over the world to get drunk and fall down." So started the Friday night "Uncle Kage vs 2" comedy session. Uncle Kage's Story Hour, long since an event that Eurofurence attendees have looked forward to, was hugely entertaing and combined his usual style of bashful comedy and hilarious amusement. The good doctor kept the attendees laughing with anecdotes inspired from his role as Anthrocon chairman and from travelling around the world to other conventions. Forefront in his set was the story of "Günther", the anonymous friend of André (Eurofurence's "Hairless Master of Alcohol") whom Uncle Kage posed as to arrive under cover at the New Year's Eve party in Suhl last year to provide a surprise for the other party goers.

There was an intermission between Uncle Kage and 2's sets during which, as has become customary, there was the serving of "Freibier" at the main bar along with a congratulatory speech by Cheetah that praised the staff of the Ringberg Hotel for their years of dedicated service to Eurofurence.

2's performance followed its standard format of shocking yet hilarious jokes that touched

Kage and 2 share a moment on stage. photo: ang

upon a plethora of charged topics that ranged from furrys and their parents to the odd layout of British pub toilets (according to a certain cockroach anyway - Ed.). 2's final collaborative session with Kage involved several beers and glasses of wine that added the final touch to a night of world-class comedy that Eurofurence has come to expect from the two celebreties. *(bar)*

## Art Auction bids more cautious than last year

The auction again saw Uncle Kage reprise his usual post as the auctioneer, making an effort to get more for the contested items from the art show. The general atmosphere of the auction remained slightly cautious, with several items going at the bidsheet prices despite Kage's lively attempts to solicit additional bidding for them. It is possible that the ongoing global financial crisis has had an effect on the auction proceedings. A few of the items ignited a somewhat longer bidding fight; in those cases our auctioneer was quick to pit the bidders against each other and otherwise try to make sure they would bid higher. Also, donated charity items for support of the Suhl animal park were auctioned, as were the main stage backdrops and a few convention-related posters. The convincing echo observed each time when the auctioneer mentioned Dark Natasha proved to be well justified, as it was a piece from her that fetched the highest price. This year no especially surprising or humorous novelty items appeared, and the feeling was more of business as usual with a good selection of more typical artistic items. *(hhp)*

## Eurodance and giant Whirlpools

Dancing the conga, pool party style. photo: ang

Drinking and dancing in the pool area? What is usually a no-go was made possible last night at Eurofurence's first pool party event. Large speakers transformed the tiled hall into a wet, cheerful discotheque. The attendees straddled their inflatable dolphins, tossed beachballs or put squirtguns to good use. To MafunDi's selection of 90s Eurodance, large groups of furs started moving simultaneously in circles, creating giant whirlpools of irresistible sucking power. Those who did not feel like splashing away in the water, relaxed on deckchairs, sipping Gin and Tonic from the pool bar or sweated away in the sauna. Almost all of the charity tickets sold, and raised a total of 900 € for Suhl's wildlife park. (lux)

## Fursuit Gameshow: Royal Decision

Fursuiters all tied up in knots. photo: ang

After the qualifying rounds, eight teams of two fursuiters remained for the main event on Friday. There, the sultan and his loyal helper declared their intention to provide us with entertainment, and the promise was to be duly fulfilled. Critter teams made their way through thirteen games, ranging from the distribution of sweet treats to the audience, sculpting balloon animals and "catapulting" kittens across the stage. After a tense semi-final and a closely fought final round the sultan consulted the audience and then in his wiseness declared the teams to have been, in practice, equal. Thus Raffa, Ravell, Shayzo and Tobi shared the fame in the fursuit gameshow. *(hhp)*

## Musical medley and marble cake

AJA, Jayric and Taibu jamming away. photo: ang

A jam session of musical exploits, chock full of fun and entertainment in a setting between feel good cafe and music parlor that is what the Furry Music Cafe is intended to be. The musical spectrum is delightfully diverse. It ranges from covers of all time classics to the musician's own creative works. Some songs really tug the heartstrings, while others make your feet all giddy. In terms of music, the cafe was a brilliant success. However, a small issue dampened the overall experience; the arrangements of the chairs felt too much like a stage show and the position of the coffee table behind the musician's pit made it slightly awkward to walk upfront and collect the offered goods during a performance. (cur)

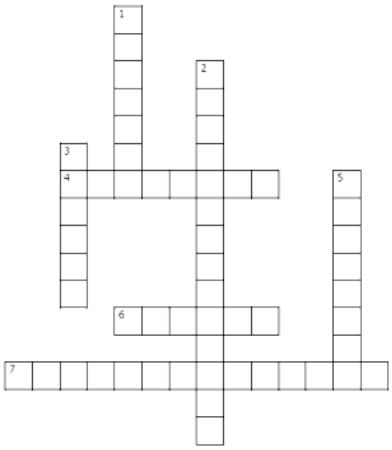
# An Ongoing Debate: Soft Taxidermy

Furs who visited the Eurofurence homepage might have stumbled upon a rather unconventional ad banner. It showed a mangy fox, surrounded by flies, wearing a bow and looking rather dead. Large white letters read "Against Fur Zombies". The reason for this is a controversy which originated on the art portal DeviantArt concerning so called "soft taxidermy". Traditional taxidermy usually consist of a stuffed animal mounted onto a base in a fixed position. Soft taxidermy animals are constructed in a fashion that makes them resemble a plush toy instead of a traditional stuffed animal. These "real fur plushies" have gathered quite a following and gained infamy as they increasingly became sold as commodities. The morbid nature of these transactions soon drew criticism from many different areas that spawned a movement that was highly critical of these constructions. As the issue became more controversial, advocates as well as opponents exchanged heated arguments. The proponents stated that they can connect to the animal they love through these constructions and that the fur comes from sources that are not unnecessarily cruel to the animal. One of the most common arguments used by the proponents is that their creations are artwork - their critics strongly contest this position, declaring that reducing an animal that one supposedly respects to nothing more than a plaything could never be called love. Video material created by respectable sources concerning the treatment of animals on fur farms also throws doubt onto the statement concerning the humane treatment of the creatures involved. The arguments concerning art, however, lead to a clash between legality and morality that needs to be treated with care as it may lead to issues of censorship, concerning filters or even the call for removal of the material from DeviantArt that the administrators are not legally obliged to do. However, with each camp set so far apart, reaching a common ground on this issue may take quite some time. (Ed.)

The logo used on the Eurofurence homepage

## Crossword Puzzle

You can find the solution in front of the ConOps office.



**ACROSS**
**4** Chicago suburb that will host Midwest FurFest 2009
**6** Australia's largest furry convention
**7** The theme for RBW 2009

**DOWN**
**1** City that hosts the world's second largest furry convention
**2** A new Canadian convention in London, Ontario (2010)
**3** Eurofurence 2 was held in this country
**5** The hotel brand used by Furry Connection North 2009

## Starlit Encounter, pt 4

a story by Bariki

The stag held his ground, snorting and dipping his head slightly to aim his antlers at the approaching wolves, close enough now that he could pick up their scent, all anger and cold malevolence. Just as the middle one was about to strike out at Callum, the back door from the Sarang burst open and a silver-coloured whirlwind ploughed into the armed wolf, knocking him to the ground with a whine. The stag stood dumbly as Aasifa stood for a moment, her silver mane seemingly ablaze as it cascaded down her neck and back before she stomped a hood down on the felled wolf's paw with a sickening sound, making him howl with pain. She kicked the blade from his reach and glared at the fallen wolves' comrades, their courage shrivelling as the saw their leader's pain and the fury in the female's eyes. They turned tail and ran, leaving the grey mare standing over the wolf lying at her feet. Aasifa snorted at him, kicking his delicate muzzle and shouting something that made the wolf cringe and scurry away, limping on his damaged paw. Callum, to this point speechless at the display he'd just witnessed, sighed in relief and took a step towards the mare. Her ears flicked as he moved and she spun around to face him, her muzzle flashing him an equine snarl, making the stag halt in his tracks.

"Why were you waiting for me, stupid creature?" she asked, her silver tail flitting behind her in anger. "If you thought that perhaps those thieves would share me with you, you thought wrong!"

to be continued!

## Announcements

Art Sales and Pick-up are open 14:00-18:00. There is no pick-up on Sunday!

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Not Footpad, but Lone Ferret won the Story Telling contest. Our apologies!

## Contestants for Quiz

Qualifiers for "Who wants to be a Pawpeteer?" quiz are: AJA, Akeela, Plushfox, Jumpy, MOW, Uncle Kage, Tyger, Shirik, Tungro. Please come to the stage one hour early (14:00).

## Today's Timetable

**Main Stage:**
Concert AJ Adams
12:00-13:30
Who Wants to be a Pawpeteer?
15:00-16:30

**Special Interest Groups**
Pawpet Show: Special Effects (Room 1)
3D Animation (Room 2)
The Plushie Panel (Room 3)
Lions, Tigers and Bears (Room 4)
Improve your Acting Skills (Room 5)
all: 12:00-13:30
Why Mascots Matter (Room 2)
Dungeons and Bunnies (Room 3)
How to Run a Con (Room 4)
The Origins of Magic (Room 5)
Motofurs Meeting (Lower Lot)
all: 13:30-15:00
Composing Music (Room 2)
1001 Nights Stories & Tea (Room 3)
Video Game Developers RT (Room 4)
Faux Real Tail Construction (Room 5)
all: 15:00-16:30
I Suit, Therefore I Am (Room 1)
Rock Guitar Basics (Room 2)
Skunki's Diver Meeting(Room 5)
all: 16:30-18:00

**Others**
Fursuit Parade Start (Lobby)
11:00-12:00
Charity Event (Zoo Suhl):
- Photo shoot (qualifiers only), 14:00
- Suitwalk (public), 16:30
14:00-17:30

*** Dinnertime ***

**Main Stage:**
Pawpet Show: Operation Desert Snow
19:00-22:00
Big Blue Dance
22:30- Open End

**Others:**
Alternative Party (40 Thieves)
22:00-02:00

DDR Free Play (Room 1)
Xany's Game Corner (Room 2)
Artists Lounge (Room 3)
Werewolves [Game] (Room 4)
all: 22:30-02:00

**Impressum**: Michael "Luxen" Graf (lux), Andreas "Curry" Wieland (cur), Robert "Bariki" Blackman (bar), Hannu-Heikki "hHP" Puupponen (hhp), Emmanuel "Tambako" Keller (tam), Matthias "Angus" Bauer (ang), Philipp "Batian_Lion" Bepler (bli).